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SEGA®

COUNTDOWN TO
GENESIS
4

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG



Ben Bates
& Dustin
Hart



PREVIOUSLY IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG...

IT'S TOUGH BEING

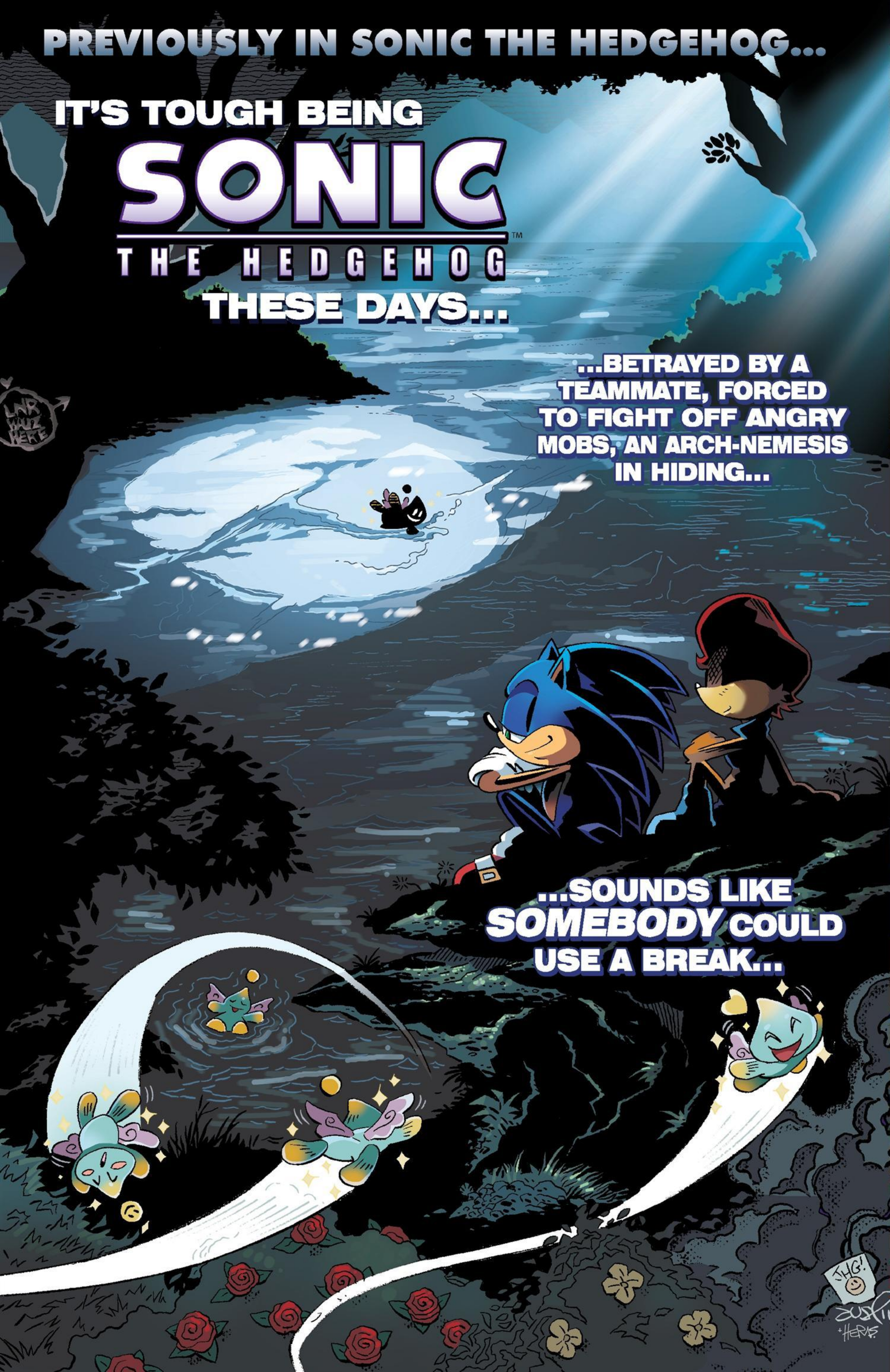
SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

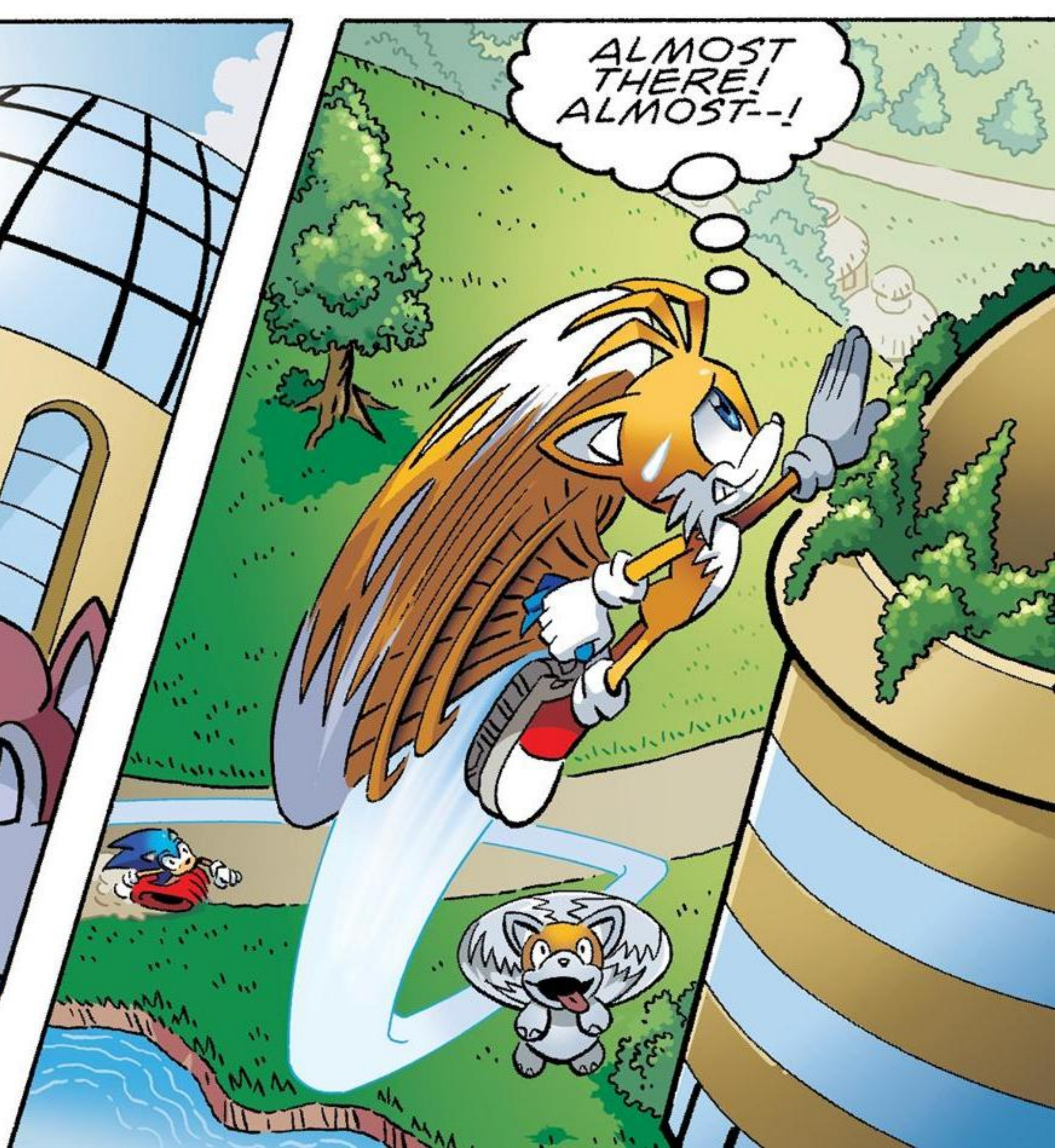
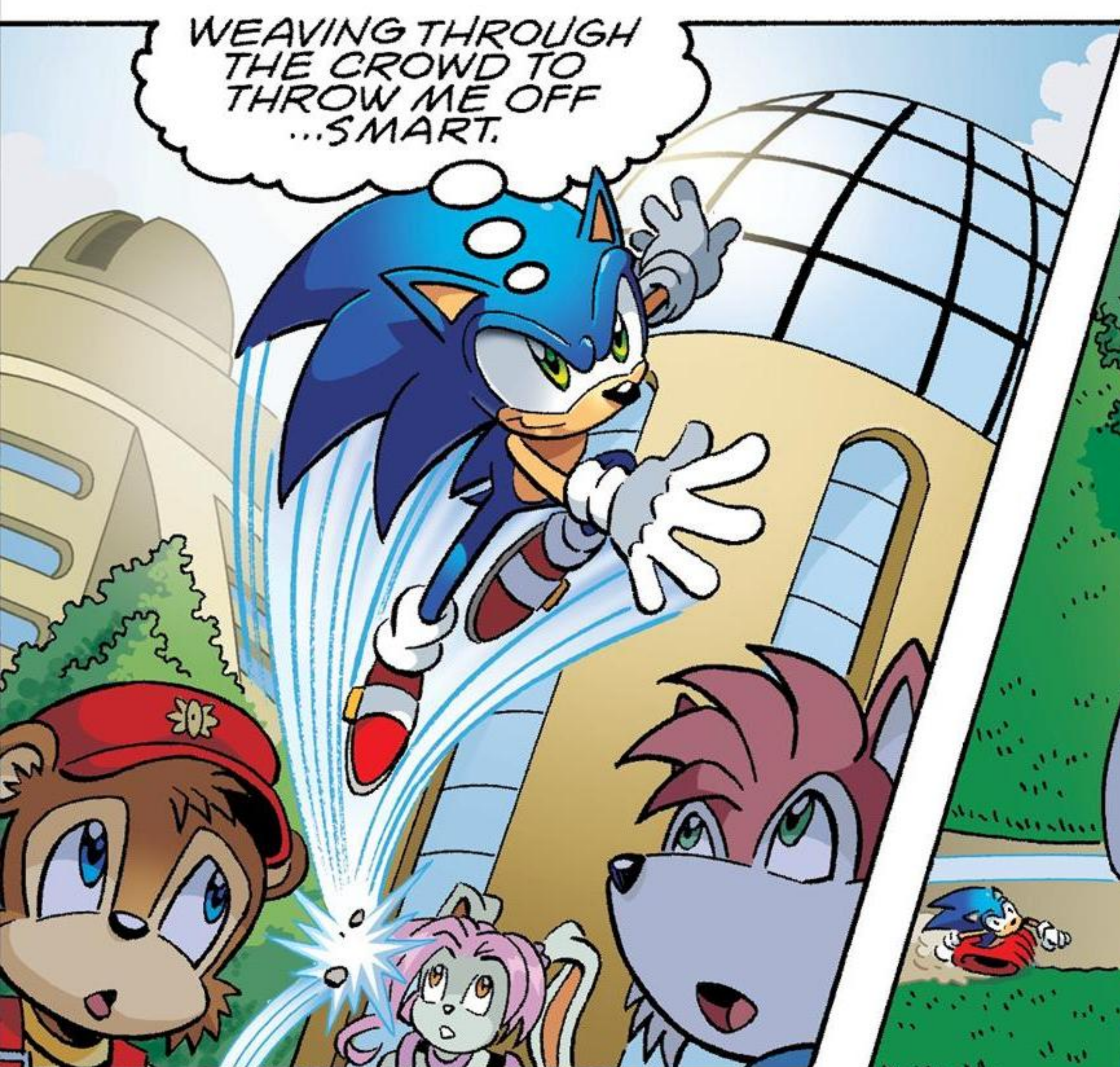
THESE DAYS...

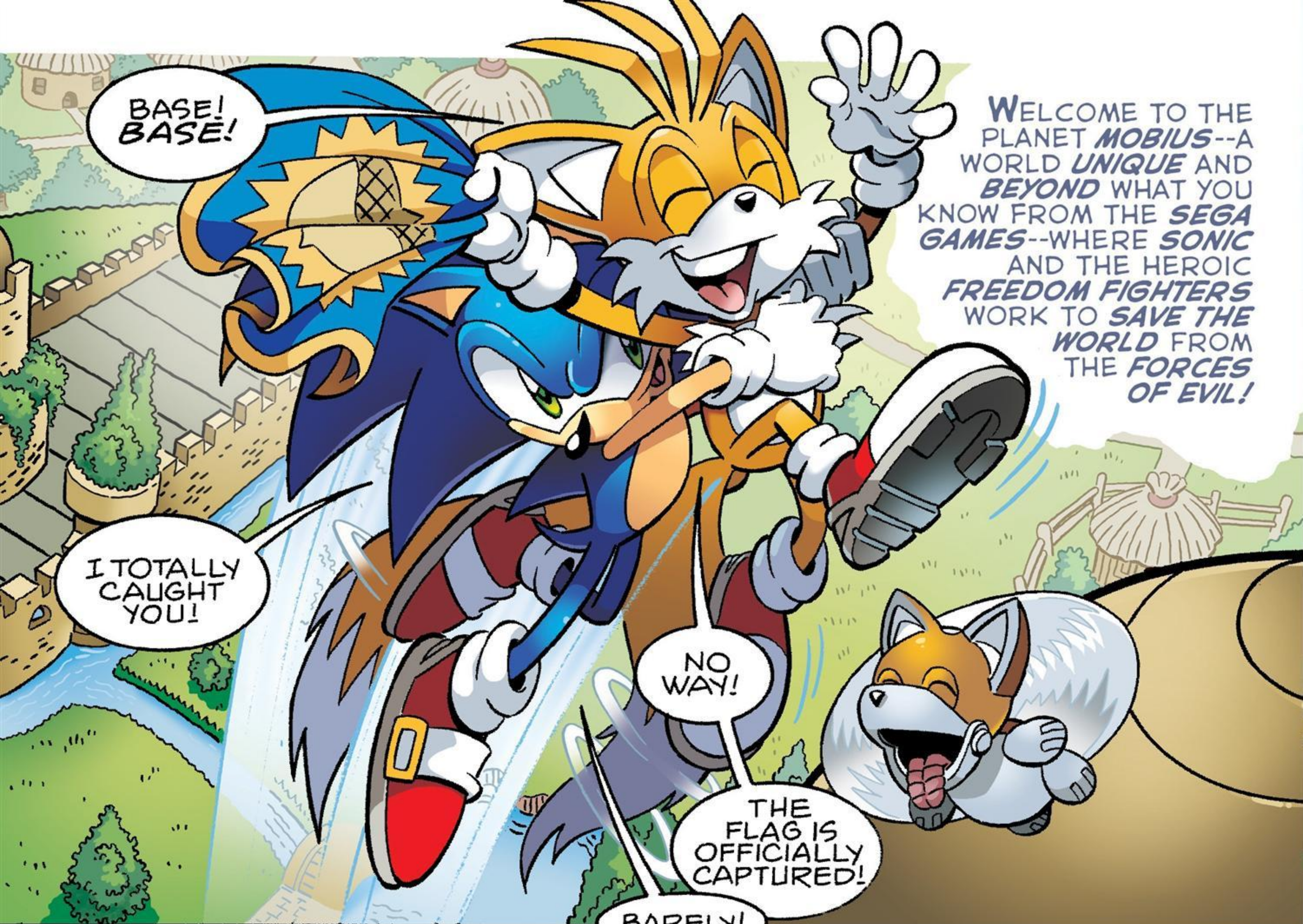
**...BETRAYED BY A
TEAMMATE, FORCED
TO FIGHT OFF ANGRY
MOBS, AN ARCH-NEMESIS
IN HIDING...**

**...SOUNDS LIKE
SOMEBODY COULD
USE A BREAK...**



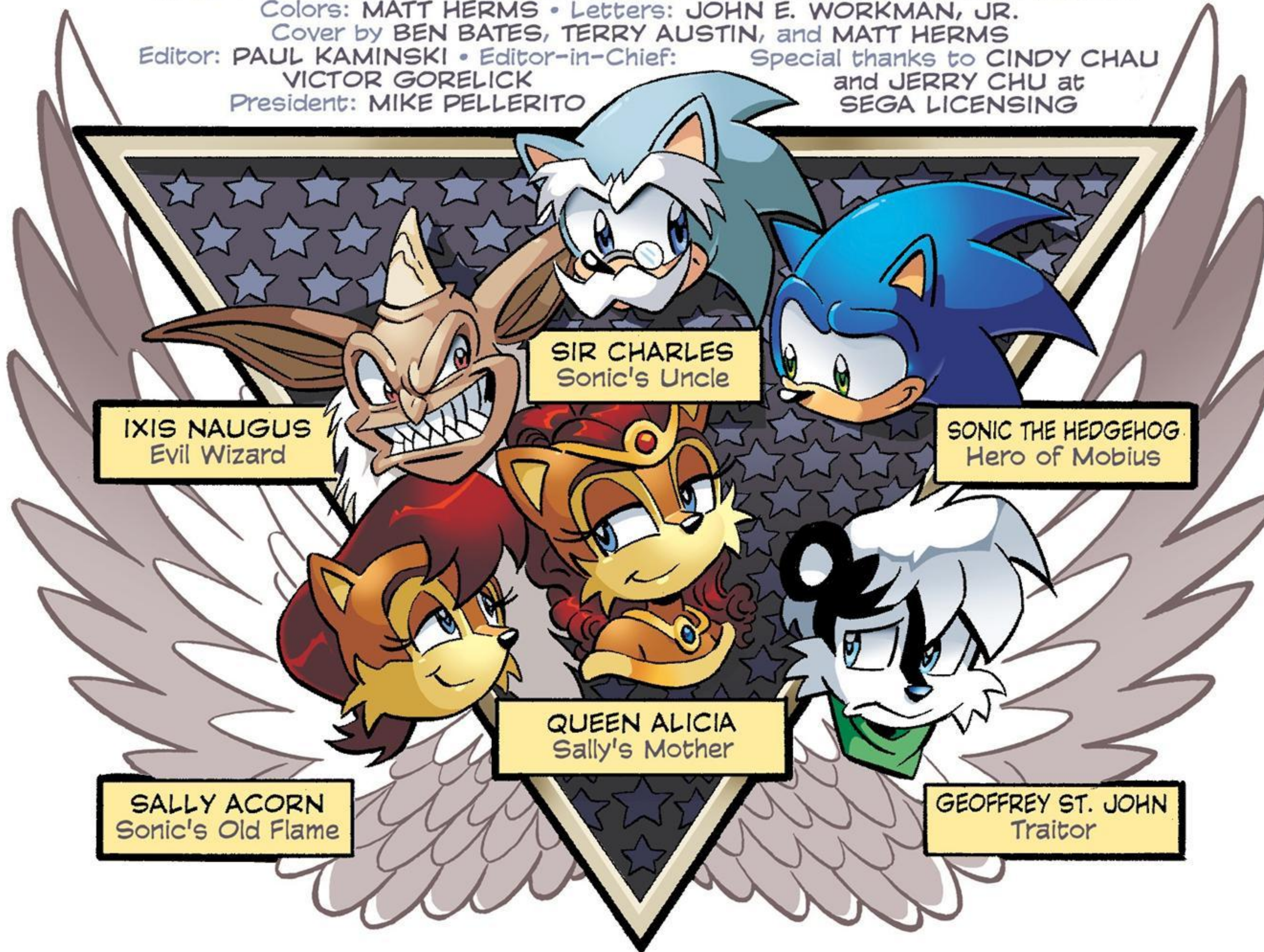
THG!
SUSHI
HERES





THE WORLD CAN WAIT

Writer: IAN FLYNN • Pencils: STEVEN BUTLER • Inks: TERRY AUSTIN
Colors: MATT HERMS • Letters: JOHN E. WORKMAN, JR.
Cover by BEN BATES, TERRY AUSTIN, and MATT HERMS
Editor: PAUL KAMINSKI • Editor-in-Chief: VICTOR GORELICK
President: MIKE PELLERITO
Special thanks to CINDY CHAU and JERRY CHU at SEGA LICENSING



SIR CHARLES
Sonic's Uncle

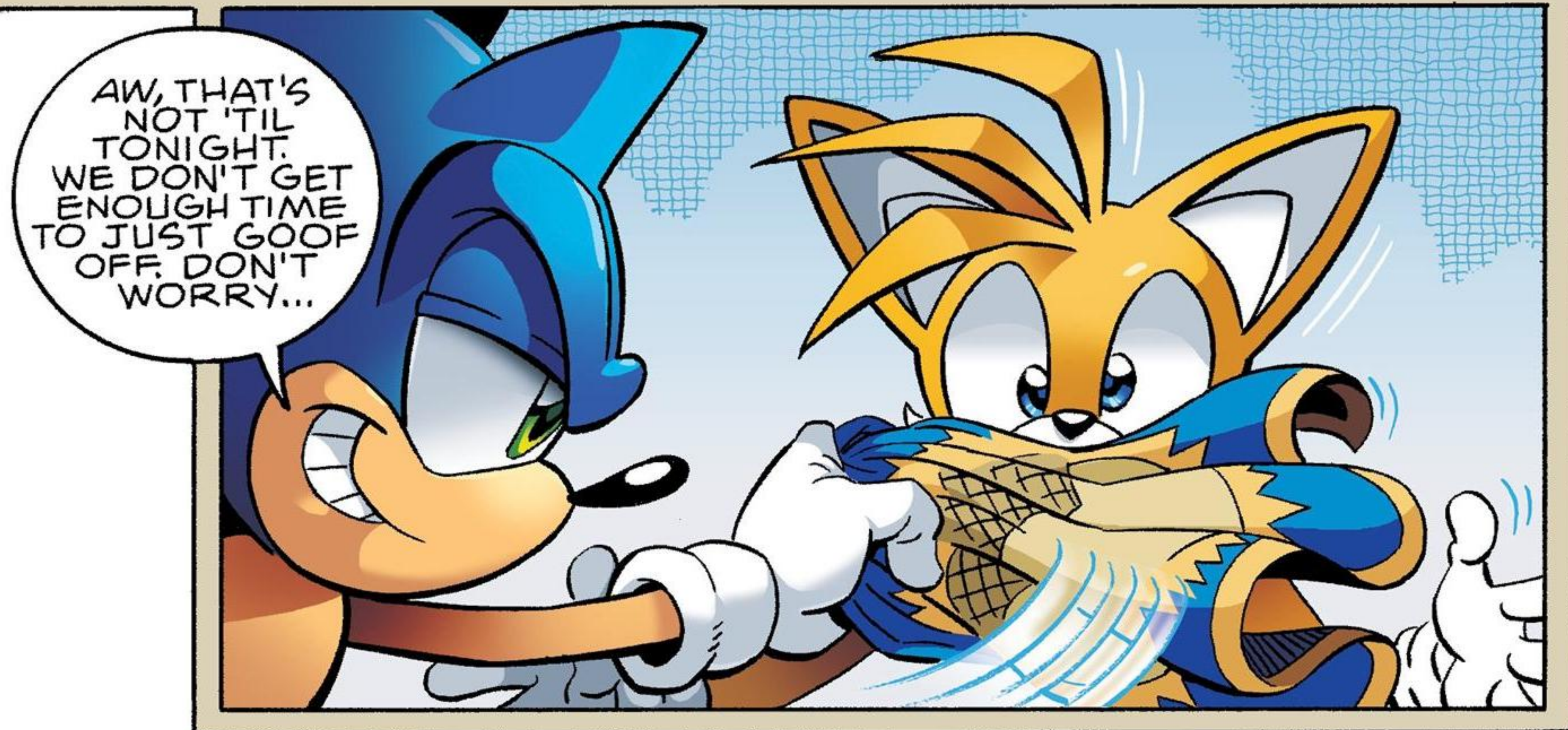
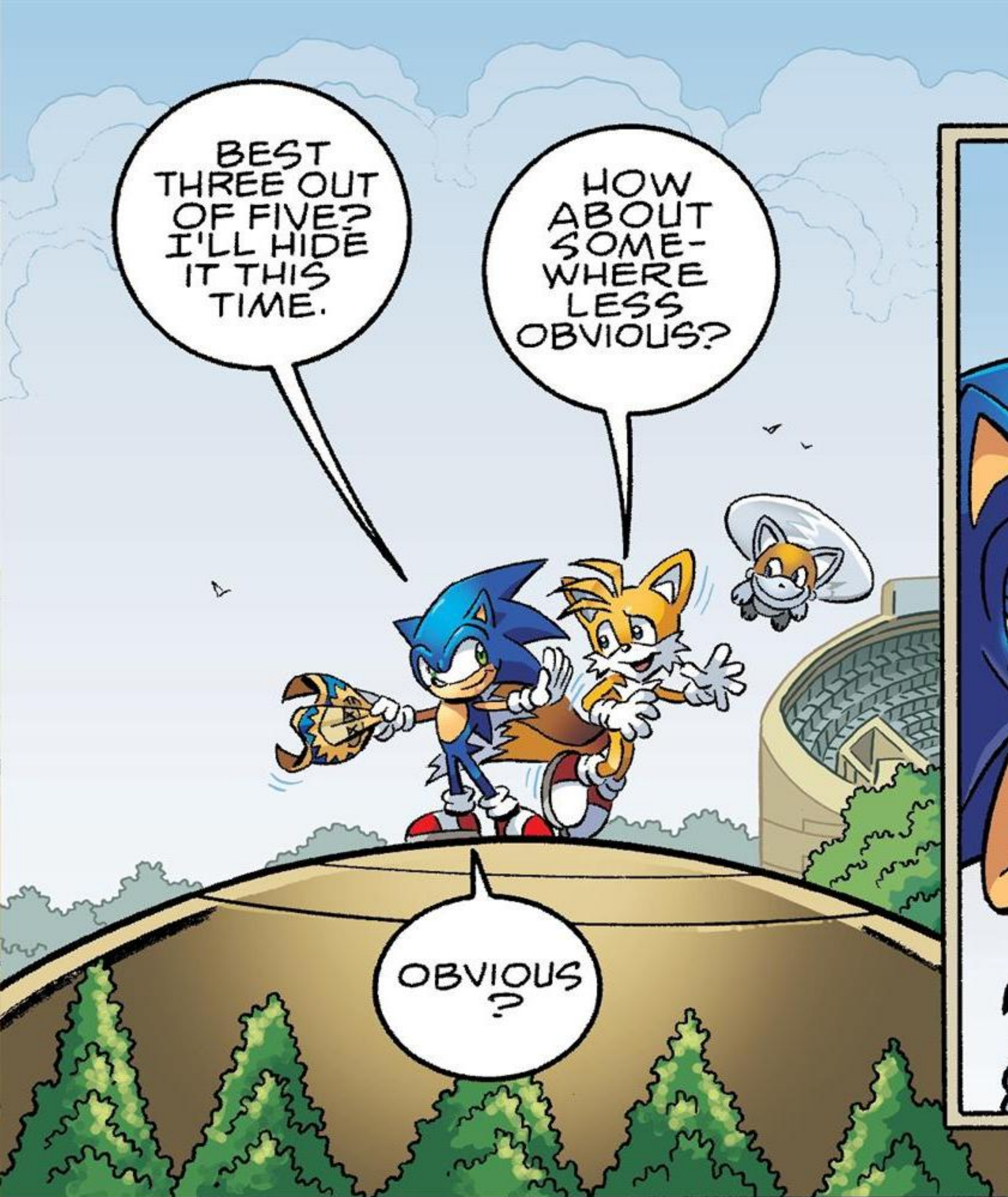
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
Hero of Mobius

IXIS NAUGUS
Evil Wizard

QUEEN ALICIA
Sally's Mother

SALLY ACORN
Sonic's Old Flame

GEOFFREY ST. JOHN
Traitor



"...I'VE GOT
PLENTY OF
TIME."

...AND ASIDE FROM THE
USUAL YAGYU RAIDS, THINGS
HAVE BEEN GOING WELL.

STORMTOP
VILLAGE--
DRAGON
KINGDOM.

THE OTHER
CLANS HAVE BEEN
COOPERATING?

OH, THEY'RE
STILL BICKERING
AND POSTURING
AND BLAH,
BLAH, BLAH!

POLITICS ARE
NEVER EASY.

YEAH, YEAH, BUT THE
FREE PEOPLE ARE
LIVING IN PEACE, SO
I CAN'T REALLY
COMPLAIN.

AND THE
IRON QUEEN?

"OBNOXIOUS,
BUT SHE'S
NOT GOING
ANYWHERE."



BUT YOU DIDN'T
COME HERE JUST
TO CHECK UP ON
THE DRAGON
KINGDOM.

I...WELL...I
DO CARE...
IT'S JUST...



THINGS ARE...TENSE
AT HOME. PEOPLE ARE
NERVOUS ABOUT
NICOLE. EGGMAN IS
STILL MISSING, AND
THEN SOMEONE WE
THOUGHT WE
TRUSTED...

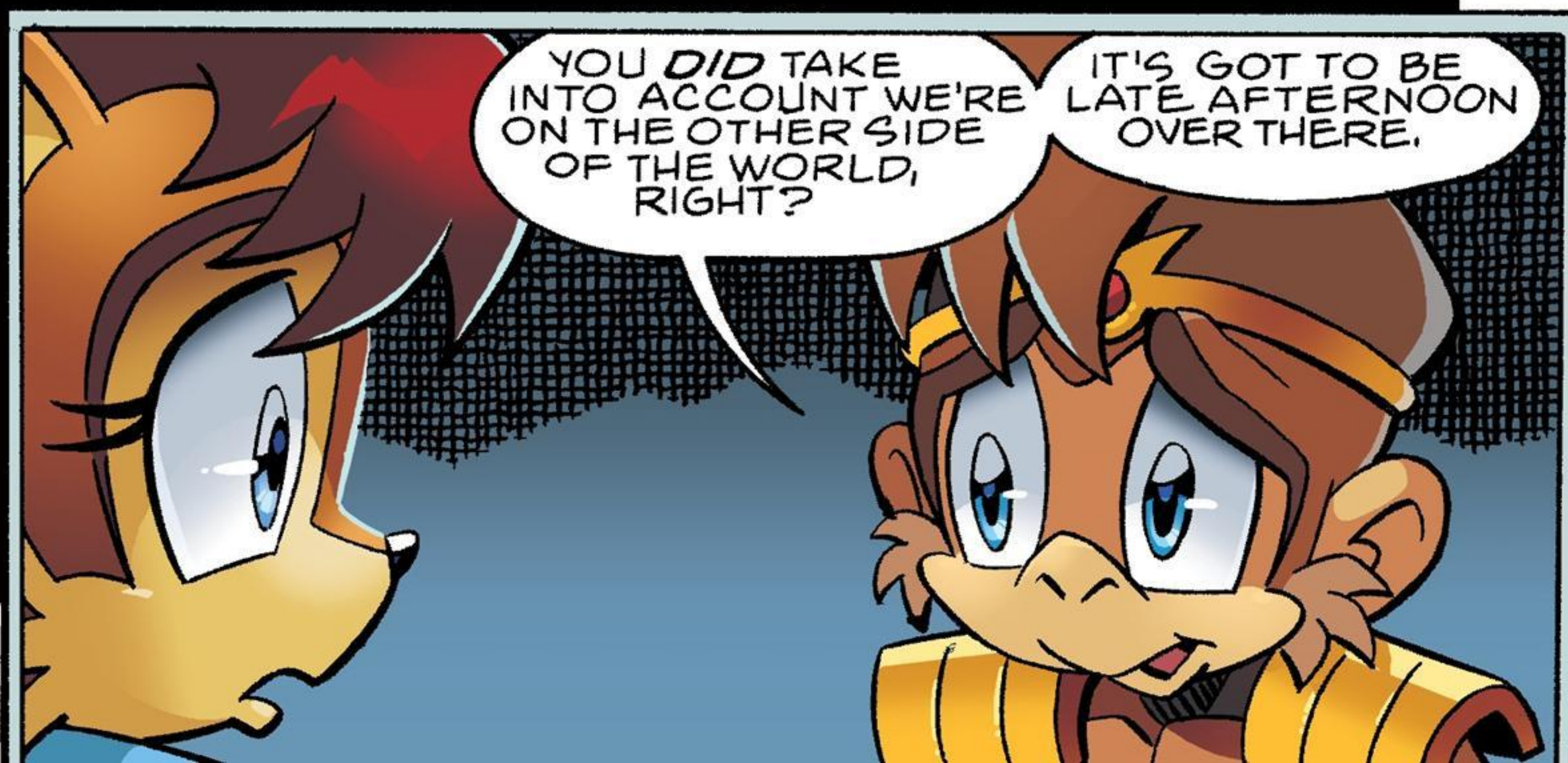
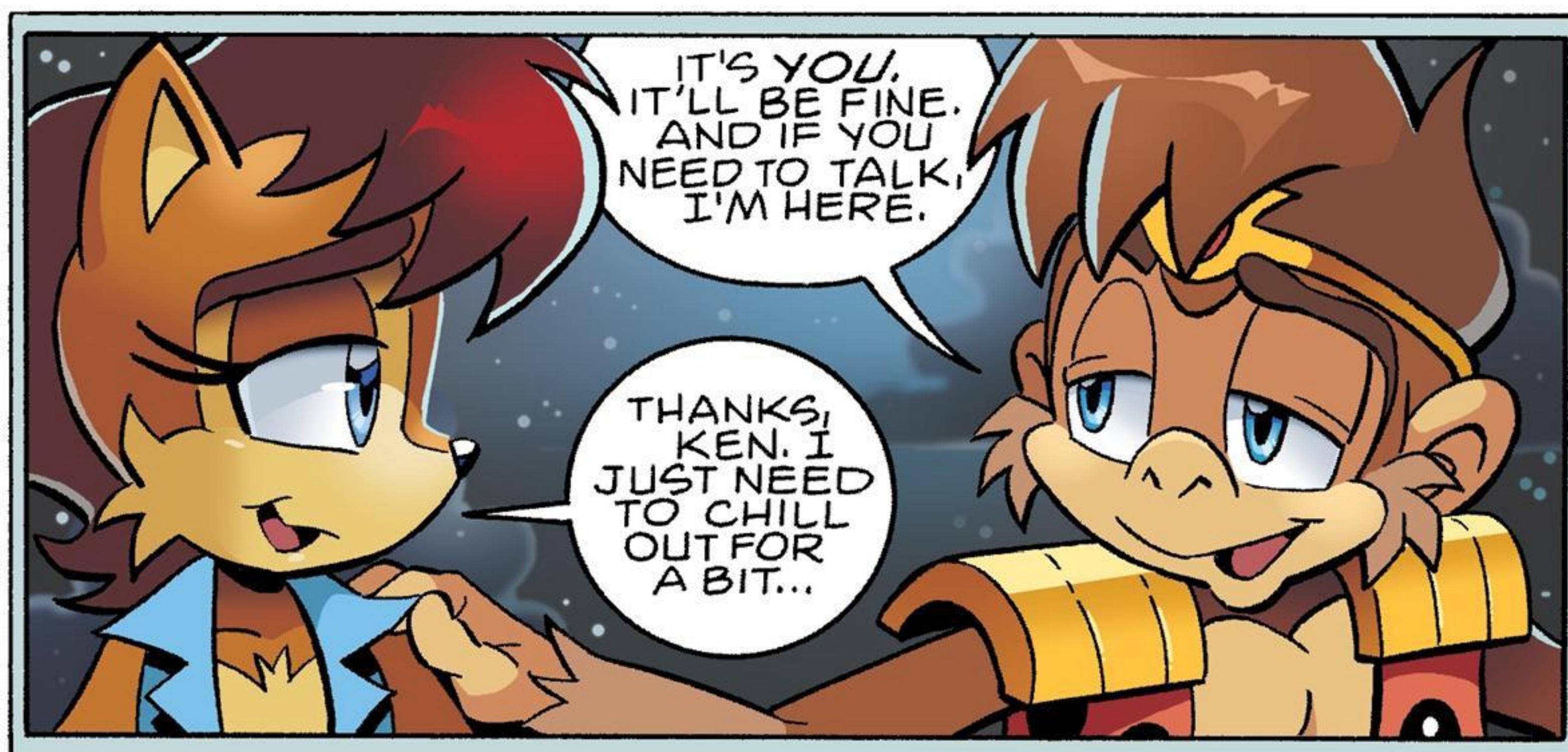
NUH-UH,
YOU DON'T
RUN FROM
CHAL-
LENGES
LIKE THAT.
WHAT IS IT,
REALLY?



I HAVE A
DATE WITH
SONIC
TONIGHT.

THERE
WE GO.
YOU CAN
TELL ME
THESE
THINGS.







OH, MY GOSH! I CAN'T BELIEVE I---! THANKS FOR LISTENING, KEN! I'VE GOT TO--

I KNOW... SEE YOU LATER, SALLY.



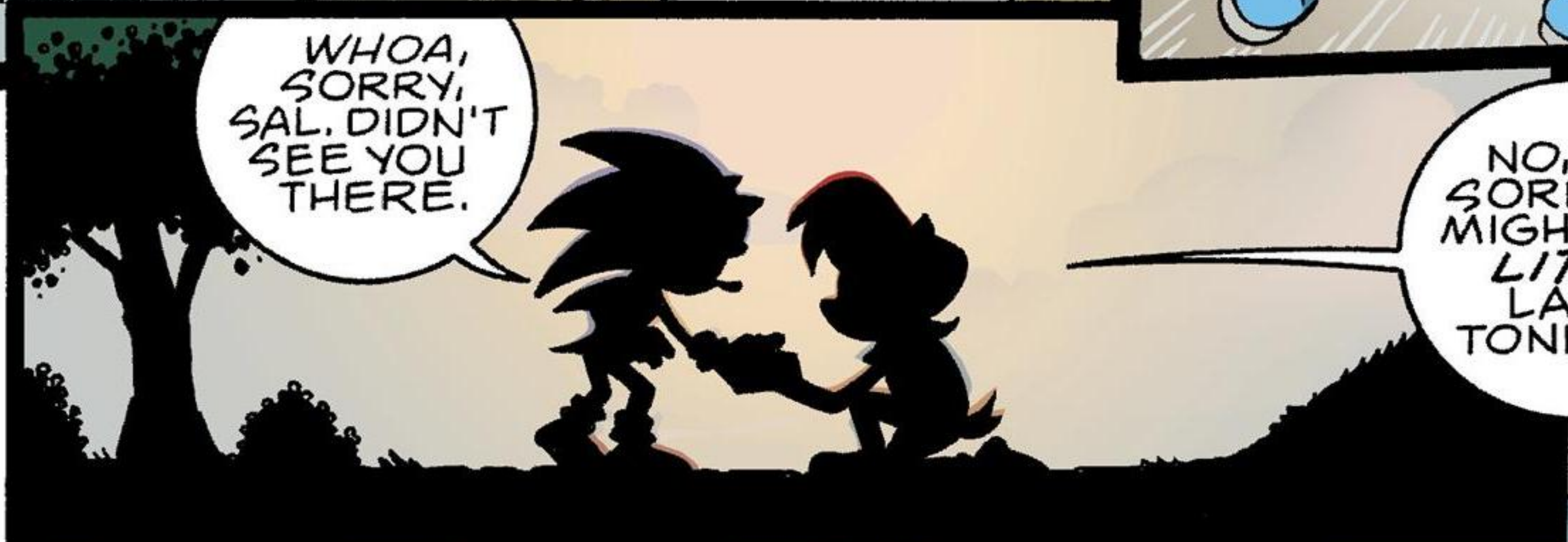
NEW MOBO-TROPOLIS.

HA HA HA! YOU'RE TOO--

SORRY! I'LL SEE YOU--



OOF!



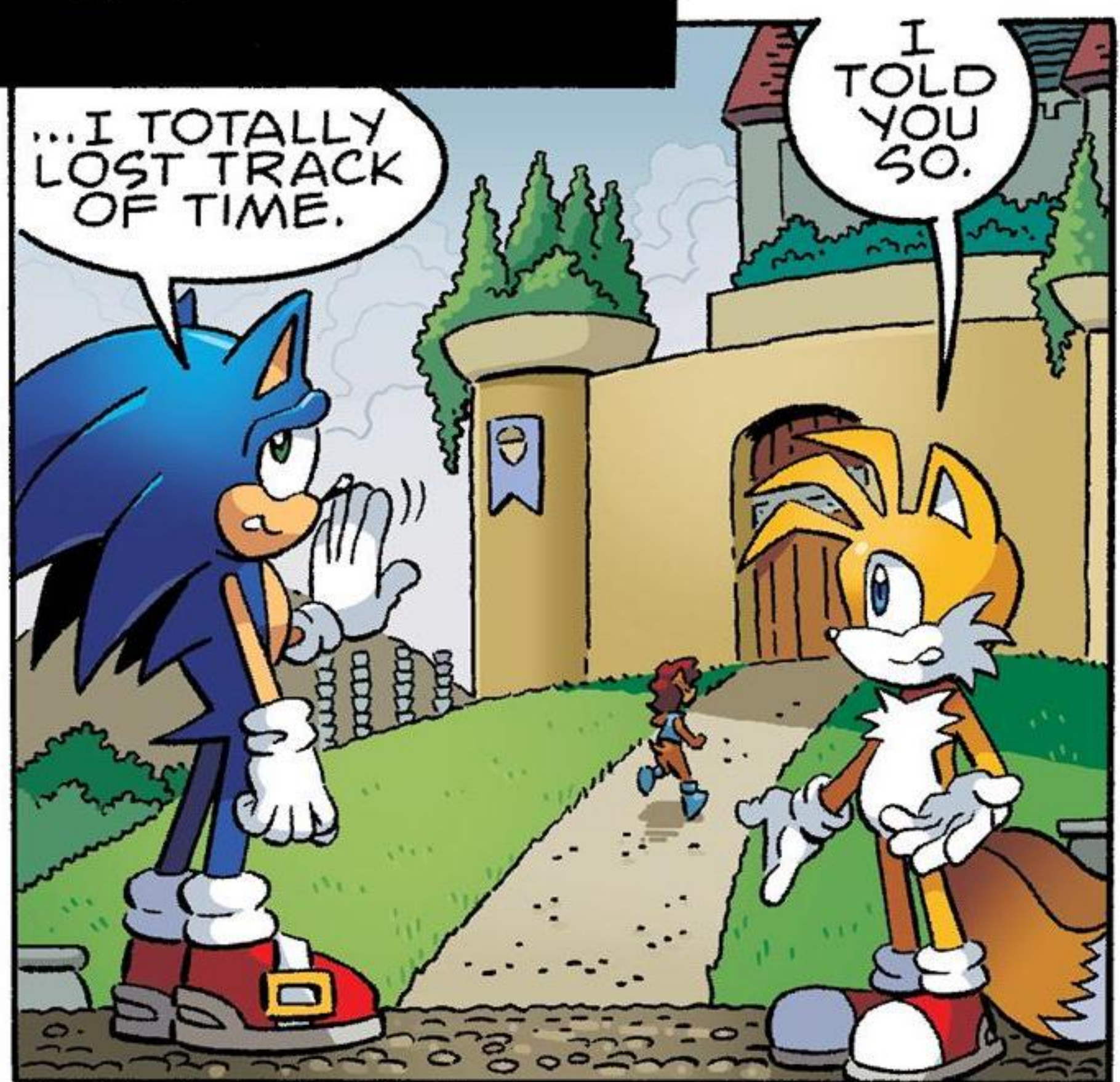
WHOA, SORRY, SAL, DIDN'T SEE YOU THERE.

NO, I'M SORRY, I... MIGHT BE A LITTLE LATE TONIGHT.



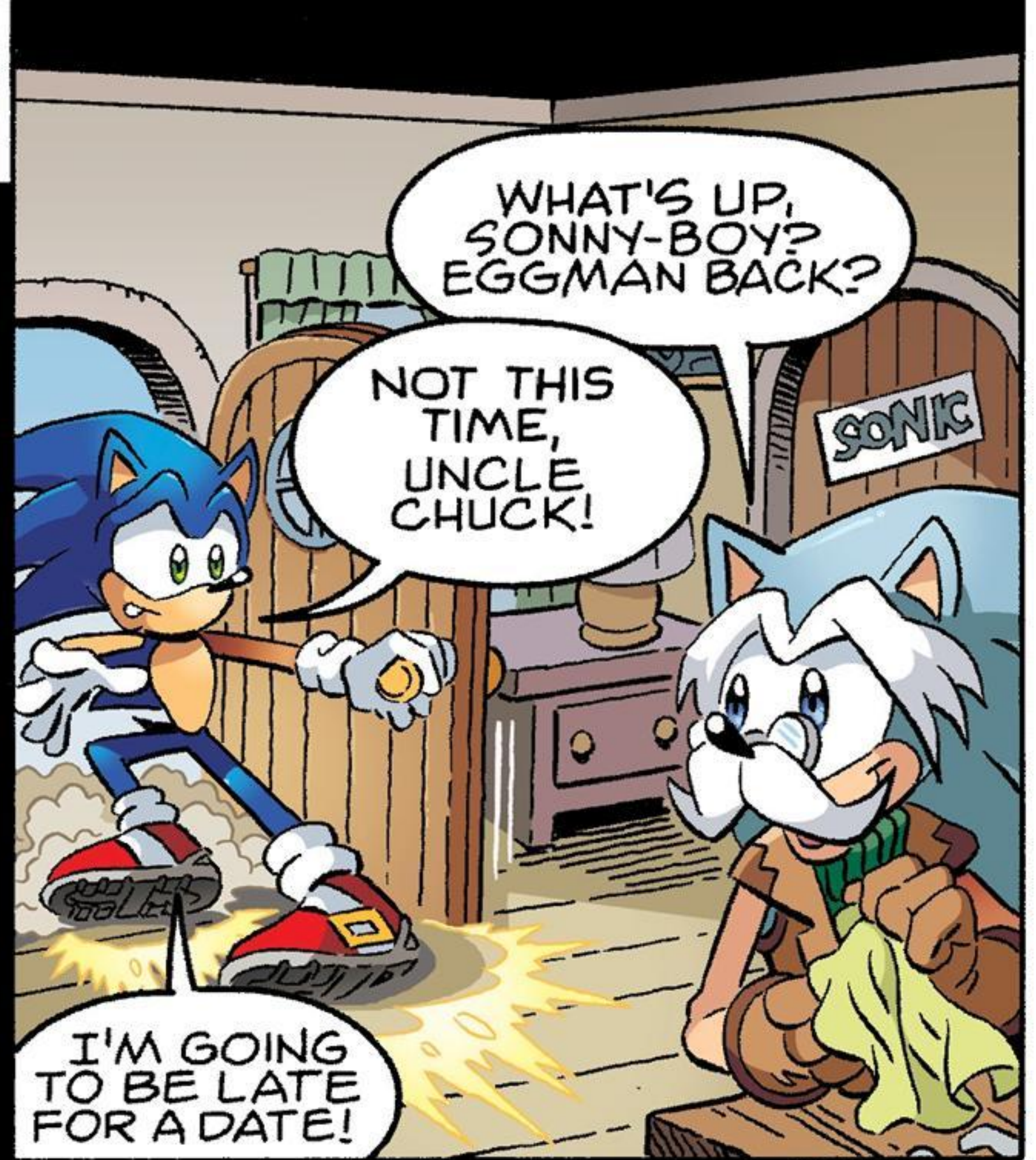
S'COOL.

THANKS. HI, TAILS, I'VE GOT TO RUN!

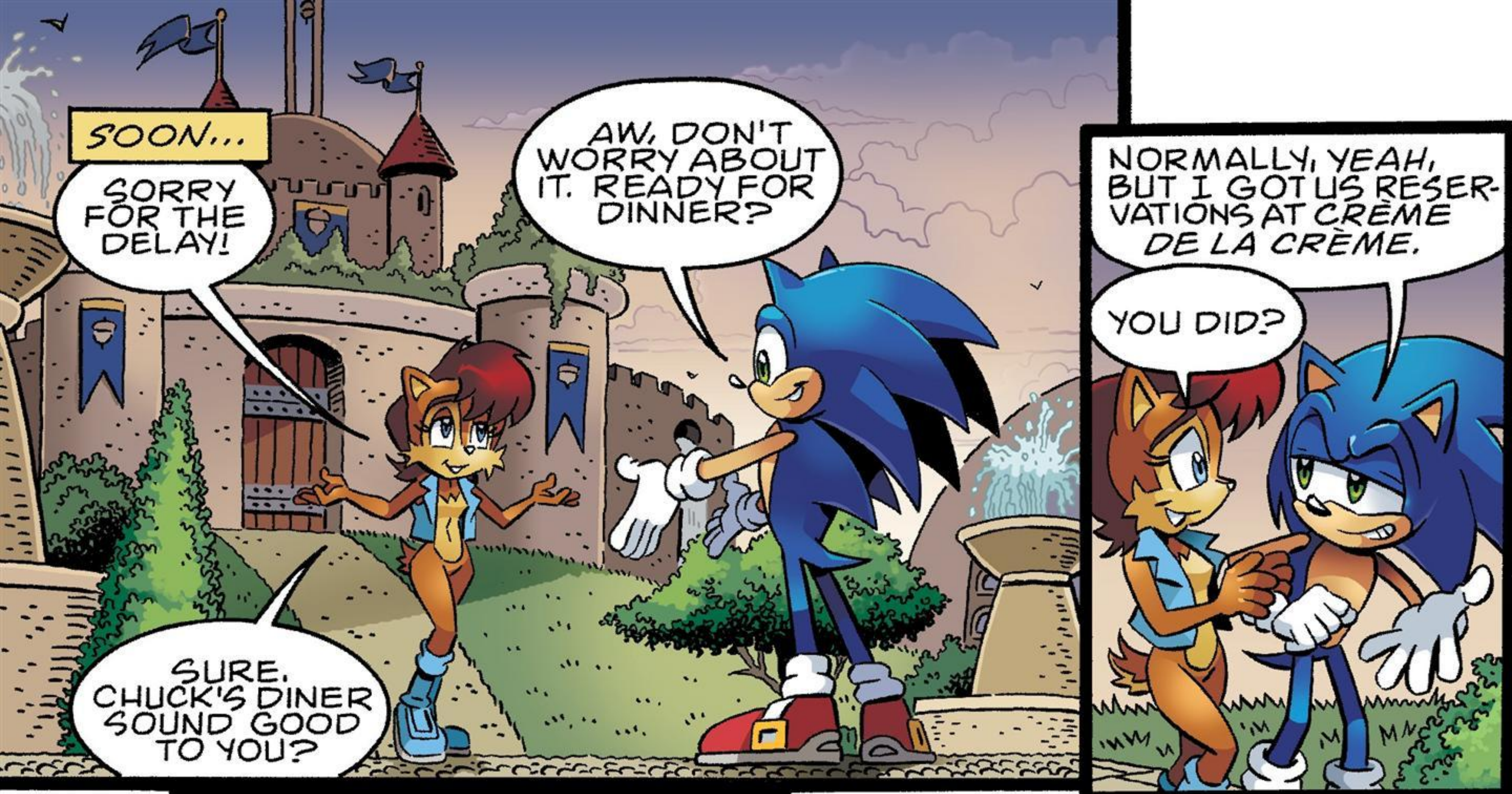


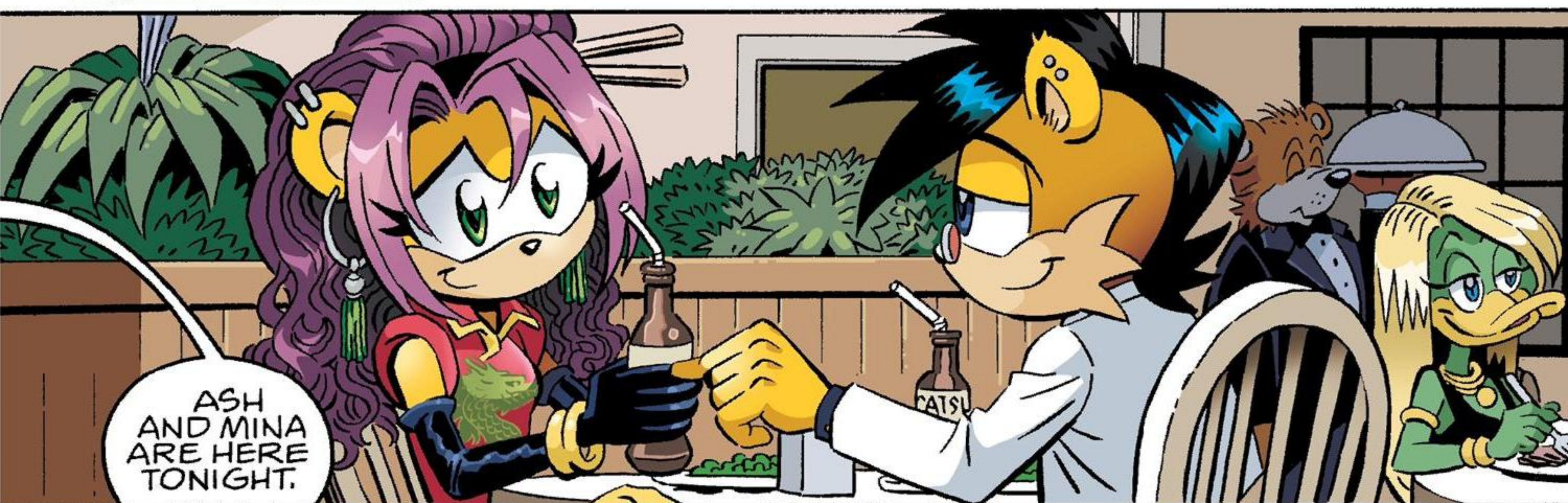
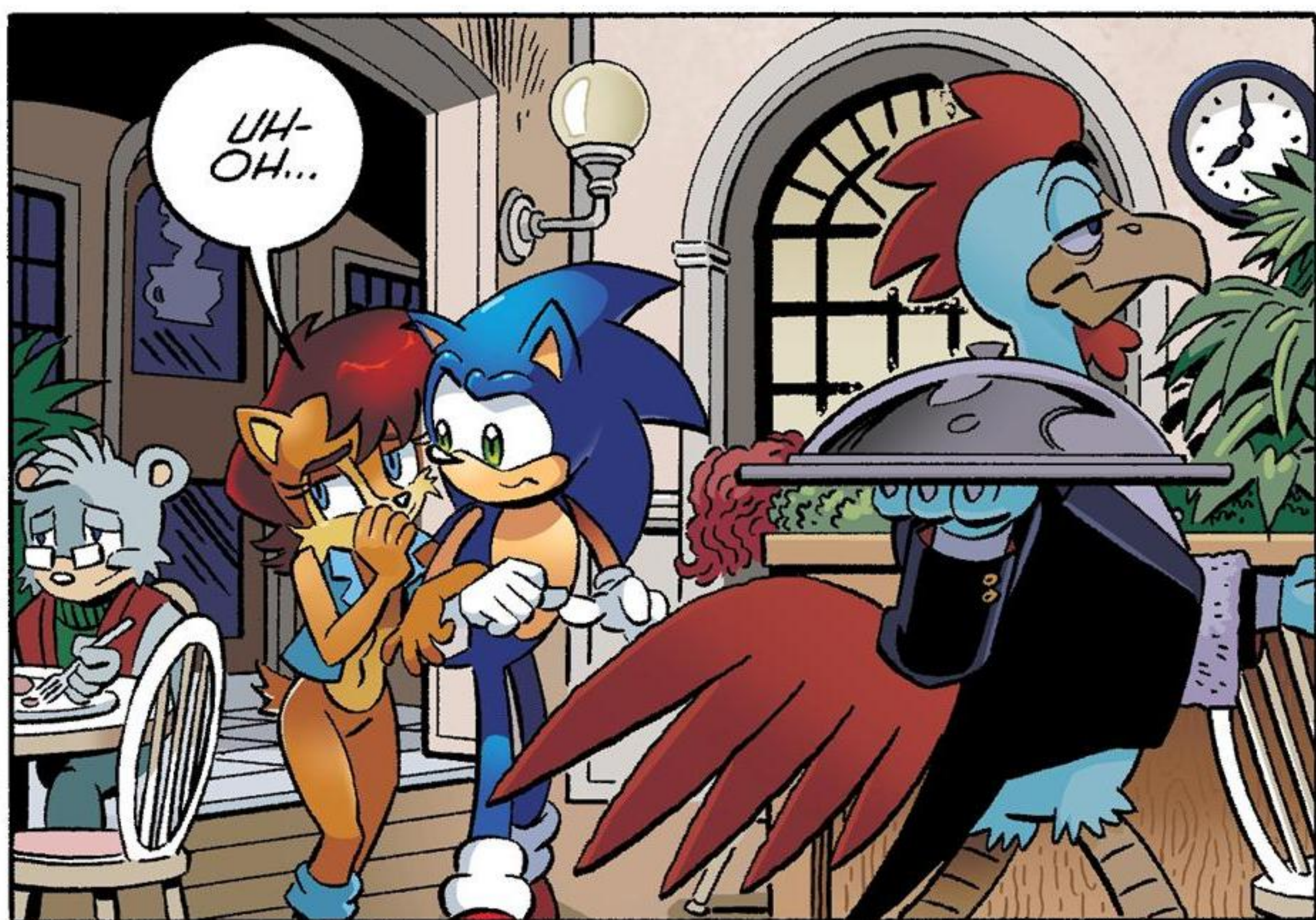
...I TOTALLY LOST TRACK OF TIME.

I TOLD YOU SO.









I WAS WONDERING
IF I MIGHT ASK YOU
SOMETHING FIRST.

UH... SURE.
SHOOT.

WHEN ARE THE
FREEDOM
FIGHTERS
GOING TO
PULL THE
PLUG ON
NICOLE?
Y'KNOW...
SINCE
SHE'S...

...A THREAT
TO THE CITY.

WE'RE
DOING
NO SUCH
THING.
WE--

YEAH! NICOLE IS
A FREEDOM
FIGHTER
TOO!

SHE HELPED
CAPTURE AND
LEGIONIZE
MOBIANS!

THE IRON QUEEN
WAS USING
MIND CONTROL,
DUH!

SIGH
LET'S GO,
ASH.

SURE. BUT NO
DESSERT?

"THIS ISN'T WHAT
MY MUSIC WAS
SUPPOSED TO
CREATE."

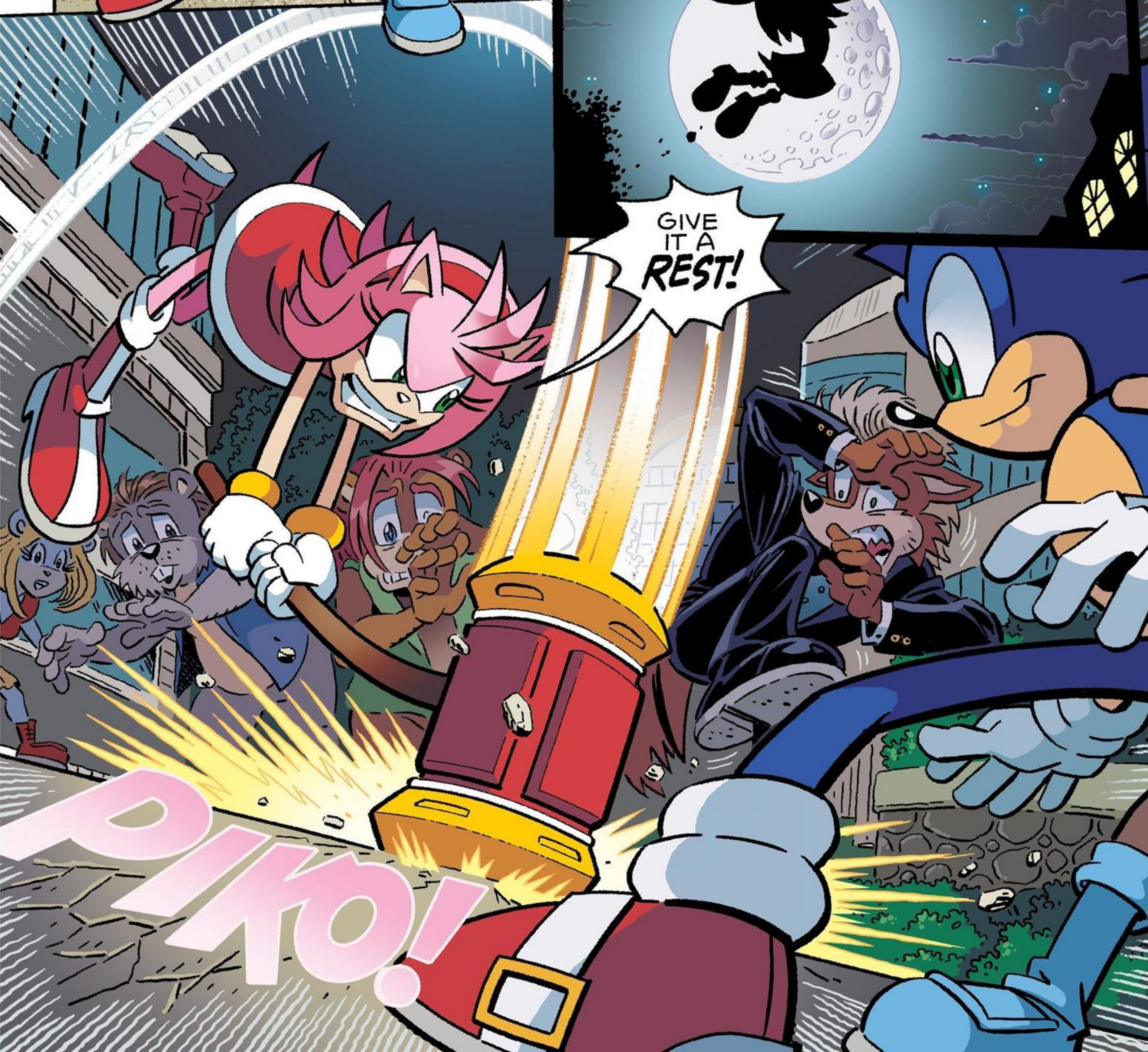
--THERE'S
STILL NO
EXCUSE FOR--

--YEAH,
WELL, I
THINK--

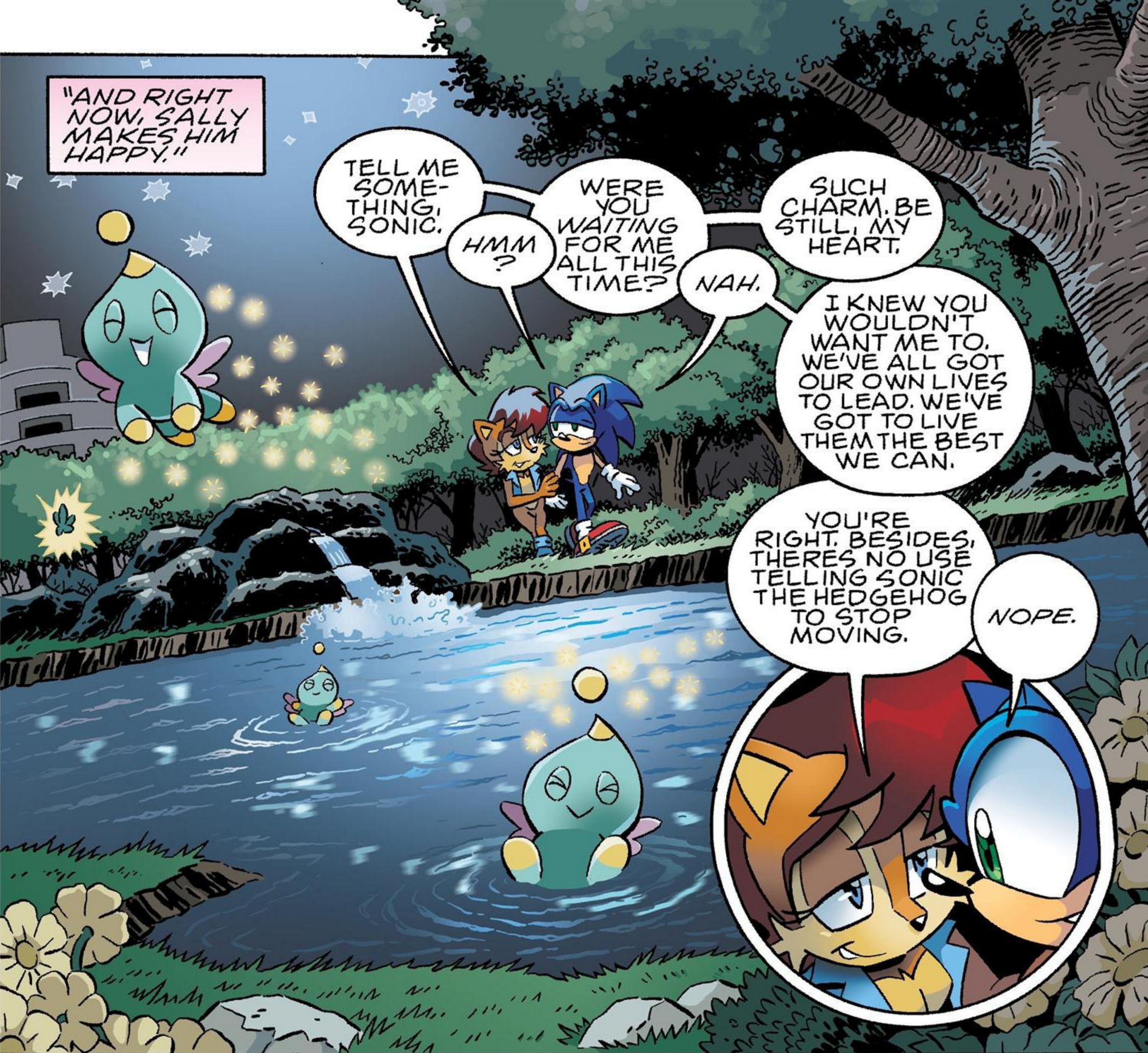
--SAVED
US ALL
BACK
WHEN--

--NEITHER
OF YOU
REALIZE
THAT--

I CAN'T.
NOT WITH *THAT*
GOING ON.







"AND RIGHT NOW, SALLY MAKES HIM HAPPY."

TELL ME SOMETHING, SONIC.

HMM?

WERE YOU WAITING FOR ME ALL THIS TIME?

NAH.

SUCH CHARM. BE STILL, MY HEART.

I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T WANT ME TO. WE'VE ALL GOT OUR OWN LIVES TO LEAD. WE'VE GOT TO LIVE THEM THE BEST WE CAN.

YOU'RE RIGHT. BESIDES, THERES NO USE TELLING SONIC THE HEDGEHOG TO STOP MOVING.

NOPE.

BUT... FIONA?

I NEVER SAID I ALWAYS MADE THE **RIGHT** MOVES.

SO YOU WOULD'VE BEEN OKAY IF I STAYED WITH KEN KHAN?

WELL...HE'S A STEP UP FROM GEOFFREY, BUT THAT'S NOT SAYING MUCH.



HA HA HA!
YOU WERE
JEALOUS!

YEAH, WELL,
YOU WERE
JEALOUS OF
MINA, AND WE
DIDN'T EVEN
HAVE ANY-
THING
GOING ON.

I SEE
HOW IT IS!
I OPEN UP
TO YOU,
AND YOU
TURN IT
BACK ON
ME!

HAHA!
YEP,
ALWAYS
ONE STEP
AHEAD OF
EVERY-
ONE!

WELL, DON'T GET
TOO MUCH FURTHER
AHEAD.

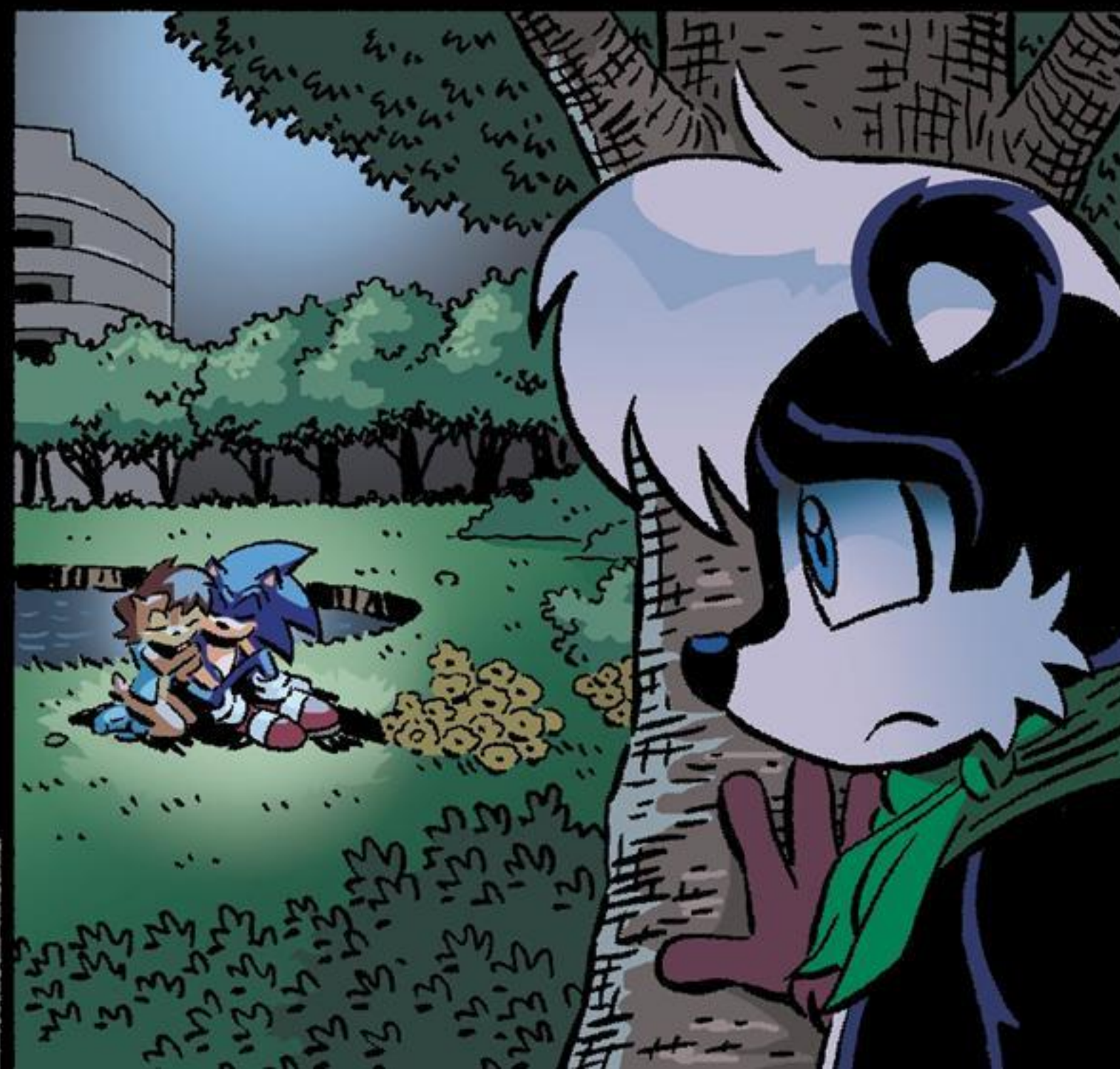
NO? WHY
NOT?

BECAUSE
I WANT TO
BE AT YOUR
SIDE.

REALLY?
THINK YOU
CAN KEEP
UP?

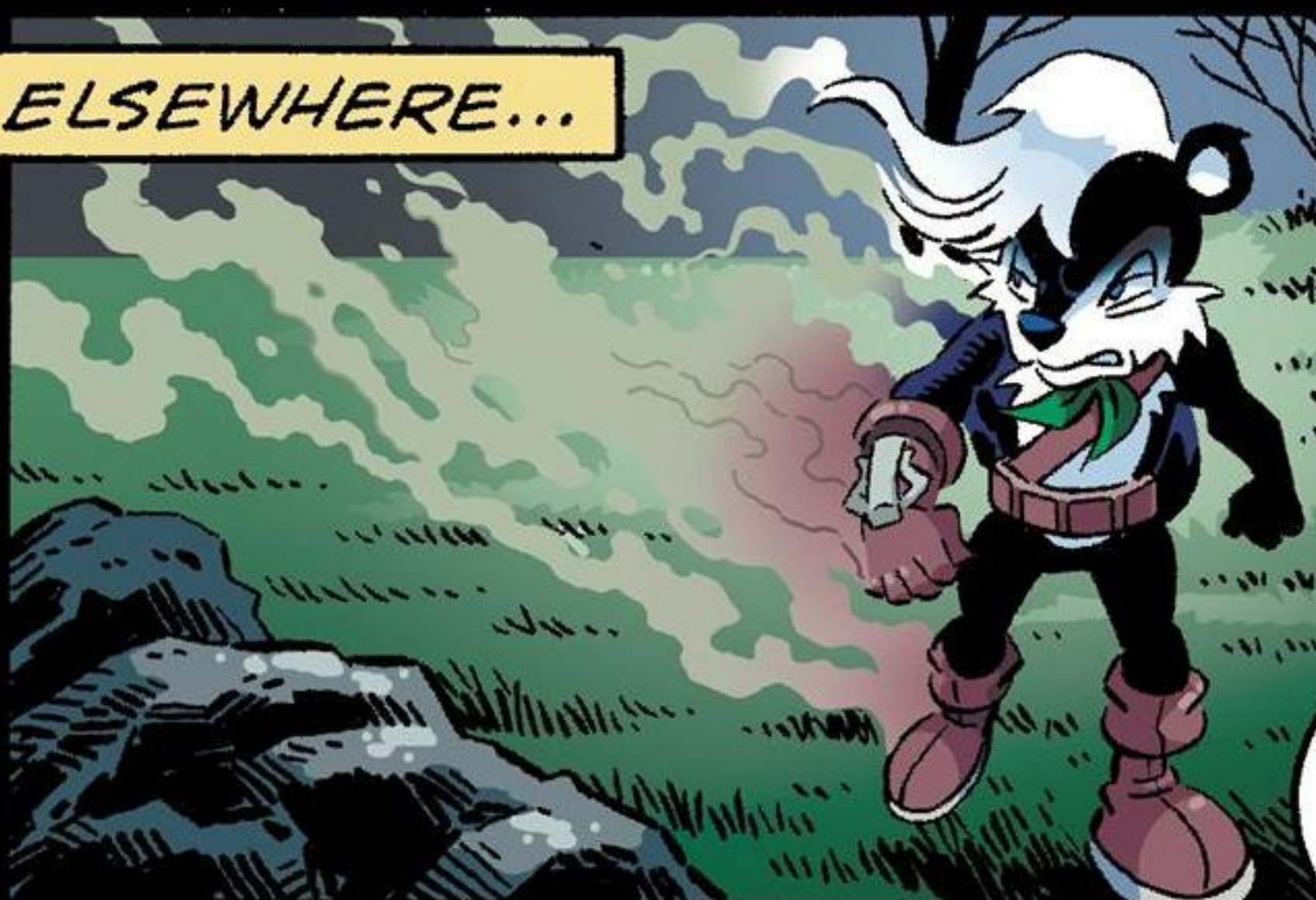
IF
YOU
LET
ME.

YEAH
...I
GUESS
I CAN
SLOW
DOWN
FOR
YOU.





ELSEWHERE...



YOU SHOULD
BE PRACTICING
YOUR SHADOW-
MELDING.

I DON'T
HAVE THE
HEAD FOR IT
TONIGHT, SIR.

CLEAR YOUR
THOUGHTS, BOY!
TOMORROW, **NEW**
MOBOTROPOLIS
WILL BE MINE!

IXIS
NAUGUS IS
READY TO
MAKE HIS
MOVE!
WILL SONIC AND
THE OTHERS
BE **READY** FOR
WHAT'S TO
COME?
FIND OUT
NEXT TIME!
UNTIL THEN,
ENJOY **SONIC**
UNIVERSE,
THE **SONIC**
ARCHIVES,
AND **SONIC**
SELECTS!



SECOND IMPRESSIONS

PART TWO

LAKE OF RINGS...

G-GOOD EVENING, KNUCKLES, ENJOYING THE NIGHT SKY?

YEAH, VERY PEACEFUL. WHAT'S UP?

IT'S ABOUT WHAT WE DISCUSSED EARLIER... * ABOUT THERE BEING NO MORE SECRETS BETWEEN US.

WRITER:
IAN FLYNN

PENCILS:
JAMES FRY

INKS:
TERRY AUSTIN

LETTERS:
JOHN E. WORKMAN, JR.

COLORS:
MATT HERMS

NOT THAT I'VE KEPT ANY MORE SECRETS... MAYBE DELAYED TELLING YOU, BUT, ER...

IT'S SENSITIVE INFO. WE REQUIRED A DELICATE TOUCH!

RIGHT! SO, YOU SEE, I--

*SEE STH #212.

RELAX. I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN. BESIDES, WHATEVER IT IS...

...CAN'T BE THAT BAD.

SOON, AT
THE SCIENCE
CENTER...



HELLO,
KNUCKLES,
IT'S BEEN
A WHILE,
HASN'T
IT?



HIM
?!

HE'S PLUGGED INTO
WHATEVER THAT IS,
HE'S **HERE**, AND
NOBODY TOLD
ME?!

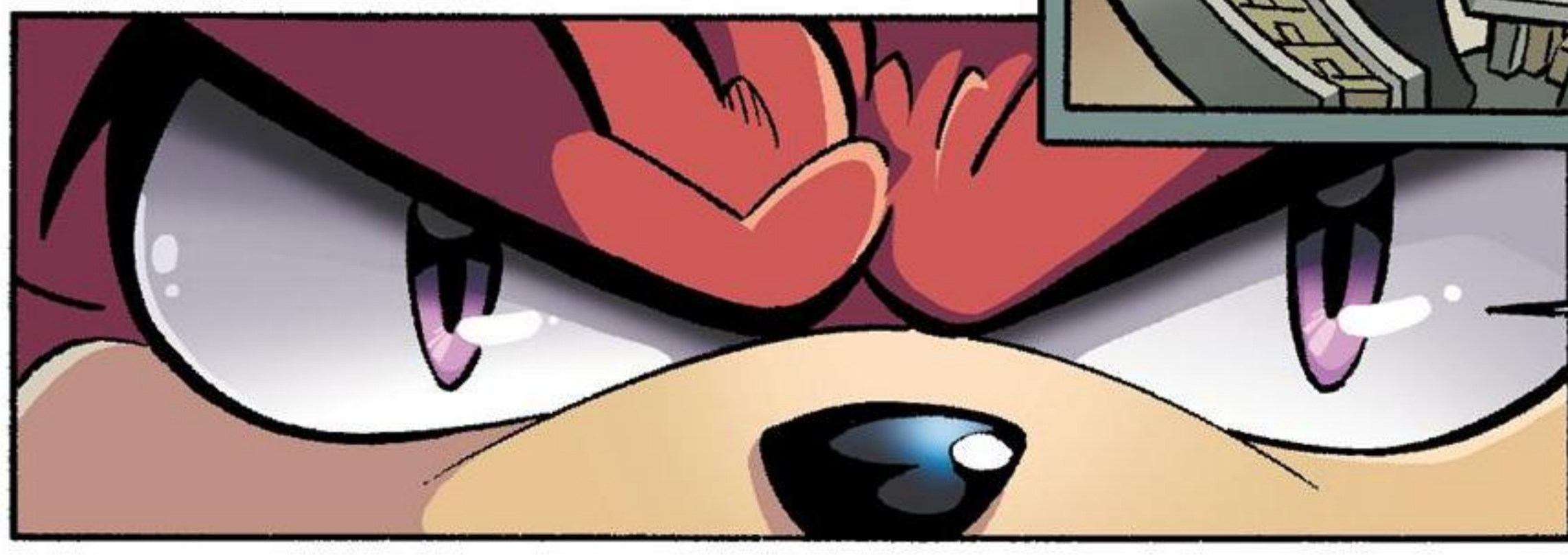
I JUST
FOUND
OUT...?



THEY KNOW OUR
TROUBLED HISTORY,
AND I ASKED TO
REMAIN HIDDEN
UNTIL I HAD THE
STRENGTH TO
SPEAK TO YOU.



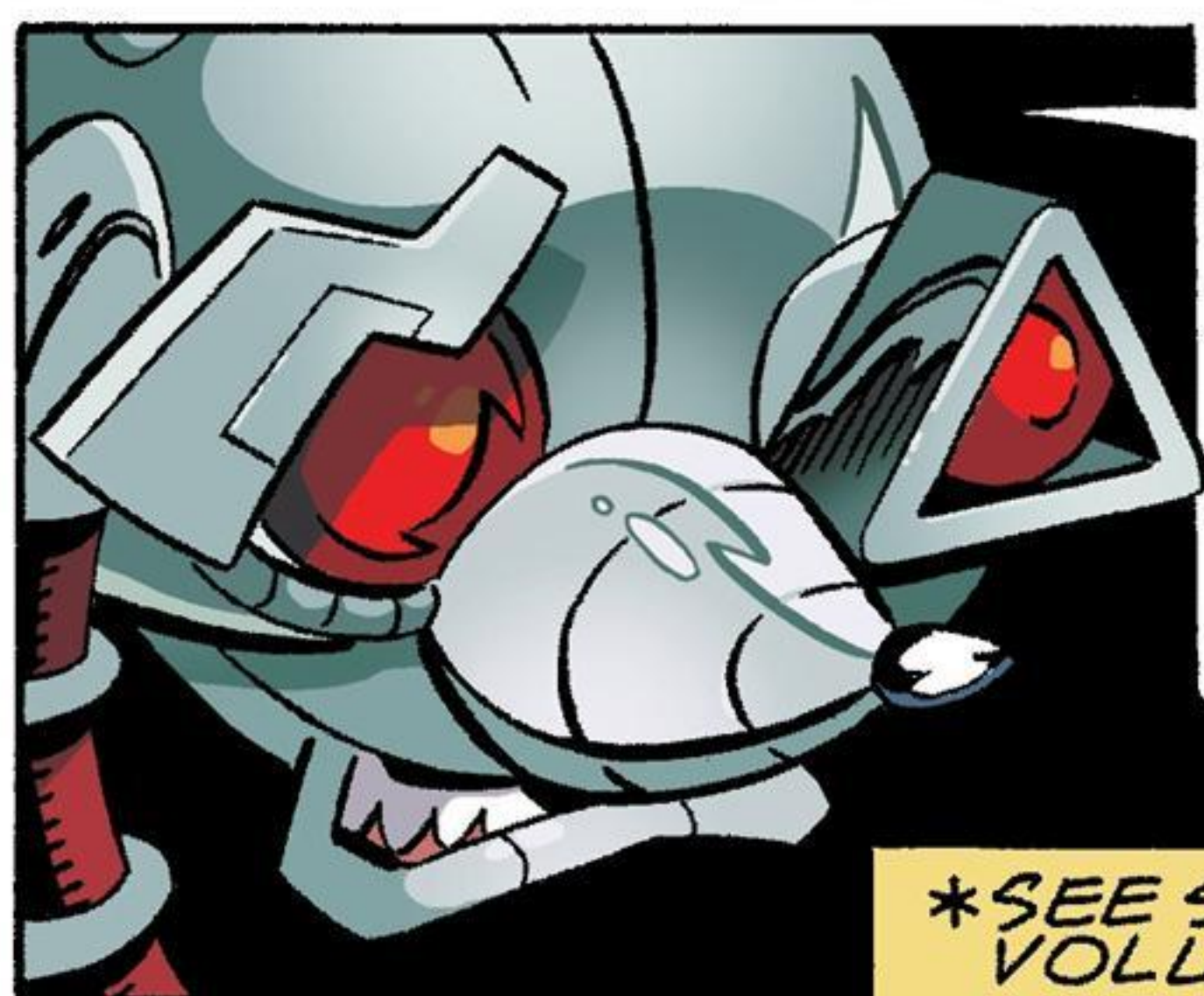
FINE,
TALK.





I'M
SORRY.

FOR
EVERY-
THING.



I DON'T KNOW WHICH IS MORE
SHAMEFUL, MY CRIPPLING PRIDE,
OR HOW LONG IT TOOK ME TO
ACKNOWLEDGE IT. WITH EACH
MISTAKE I MADE, I THOUGHT
THAT ~~I~~ AND ONLY I COULD
RIGHT IT. HAD I JUST LISTENED
TO MY BROTHER BACK THEN,
WE BOTH WOULD HAVE BEEN
ABLE TO LIVE OUR LIVES
WITH OUR FAMILIES.*

*SEE SONIC ARCHIVES
VOLUME 9.



AND NOW
LOOK AT ME.
LOOK AT
US.

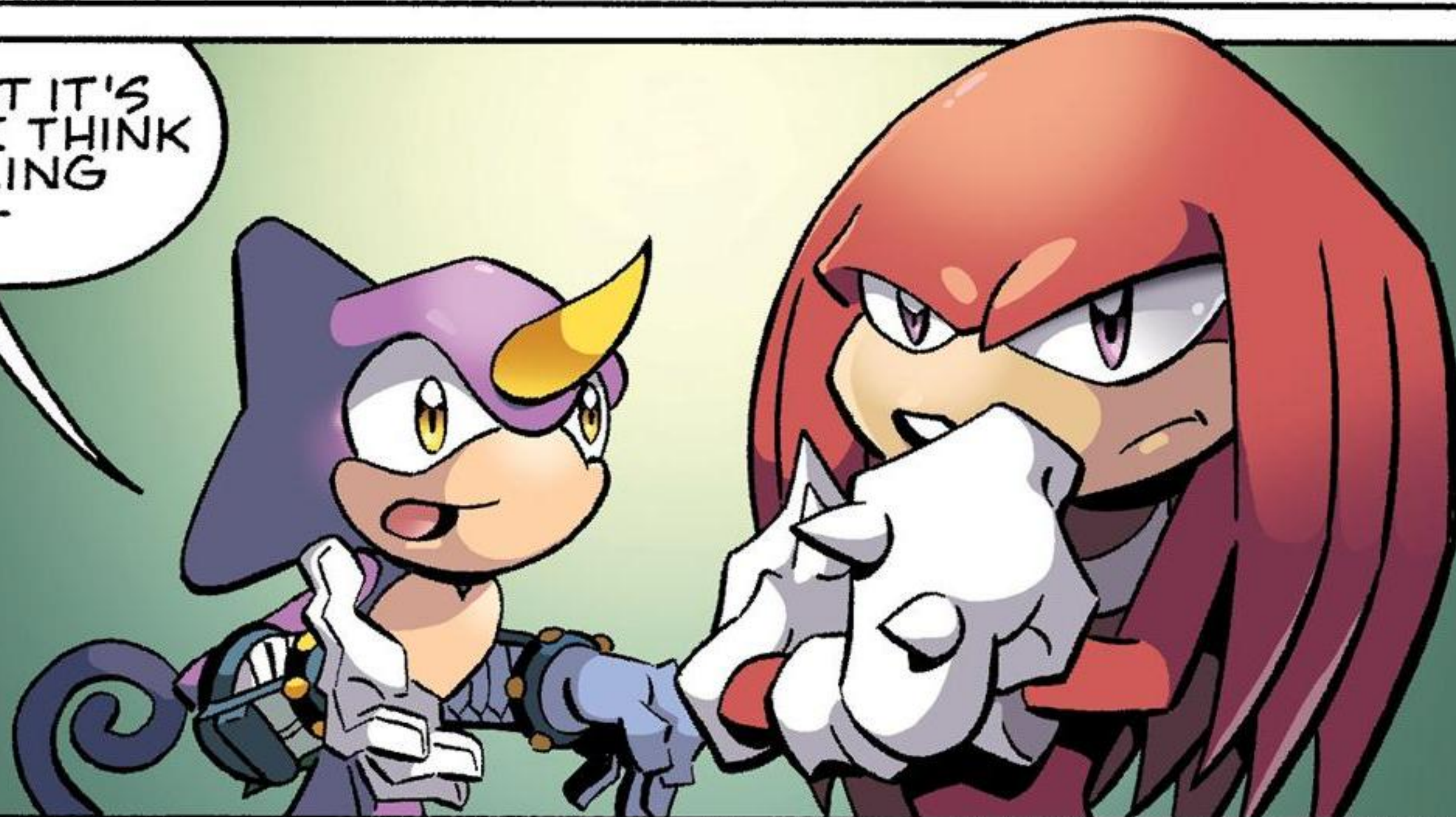


I COULD NOT LEAD THE
DARK LEGION DOWN THE PROPER
PATH. I COULD NOT SAVE THEM
FROM DR. ROBOTNIK. I FREELY
ADMIT THAT I HAVE BEEN IN THE
WRONG, AND THAT I AM LOST.
PLEASE, I ASK FOR YOUR FOR-
GIVENESS AND YOUR GUIDANCE...



...GUARDIAN.

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, I THINK HE'S TELLING THE--



HOW DID YOU WIND UP HERE?



SONIC AND TAILS RESCUED ME AFTER I WAS DISABLED BY LIEN-DA.*

AND THE LEGION?

ARMED WITH EXPLOSIVES SO THEY WON'T OPPOSE THE DOCTOR. LIEN-DA WILL HAVE GIVEN THEM A CHIP TO BLOCK THE DETONATOR, BUT THEY WILL BE PRONE TO MIND-CONTROL.**

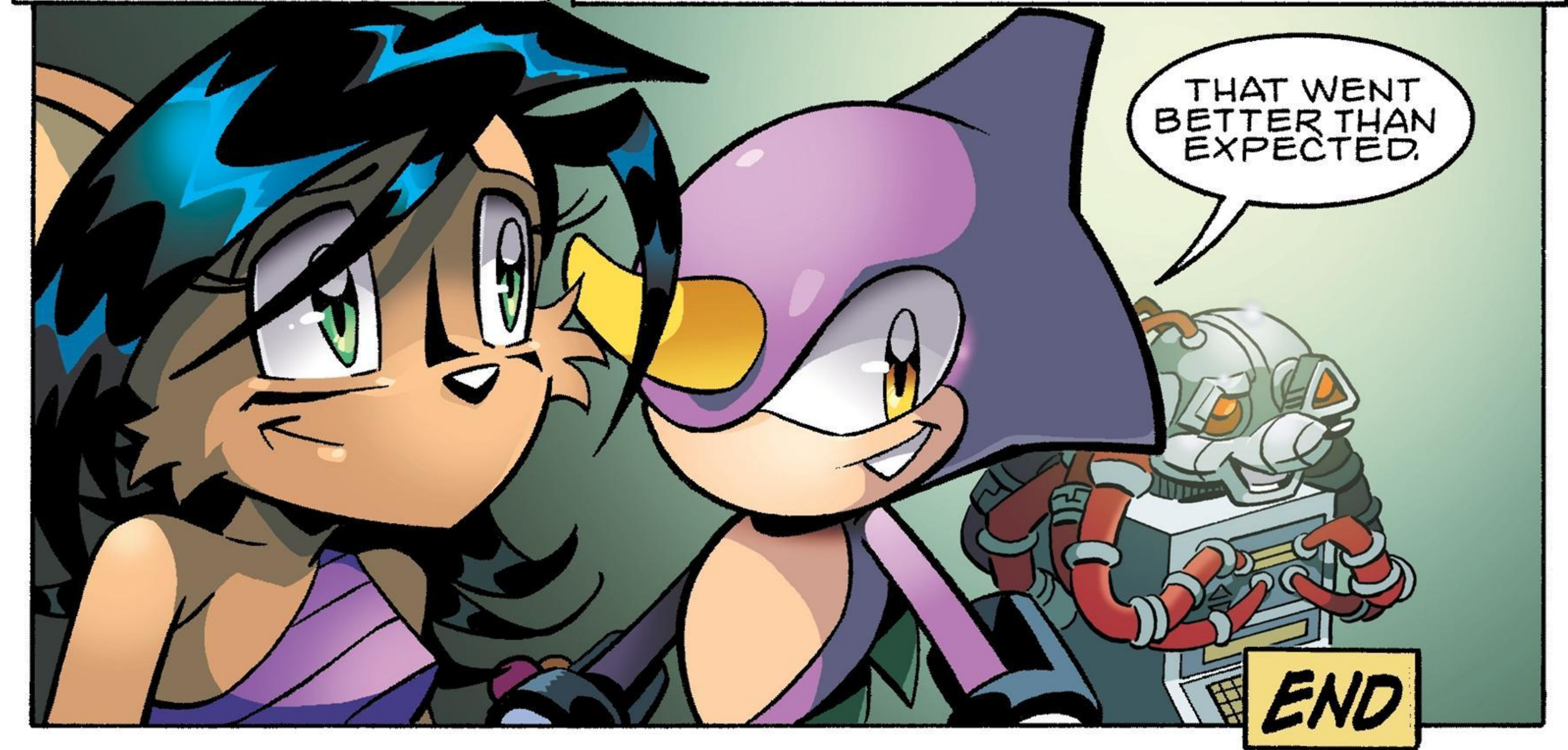
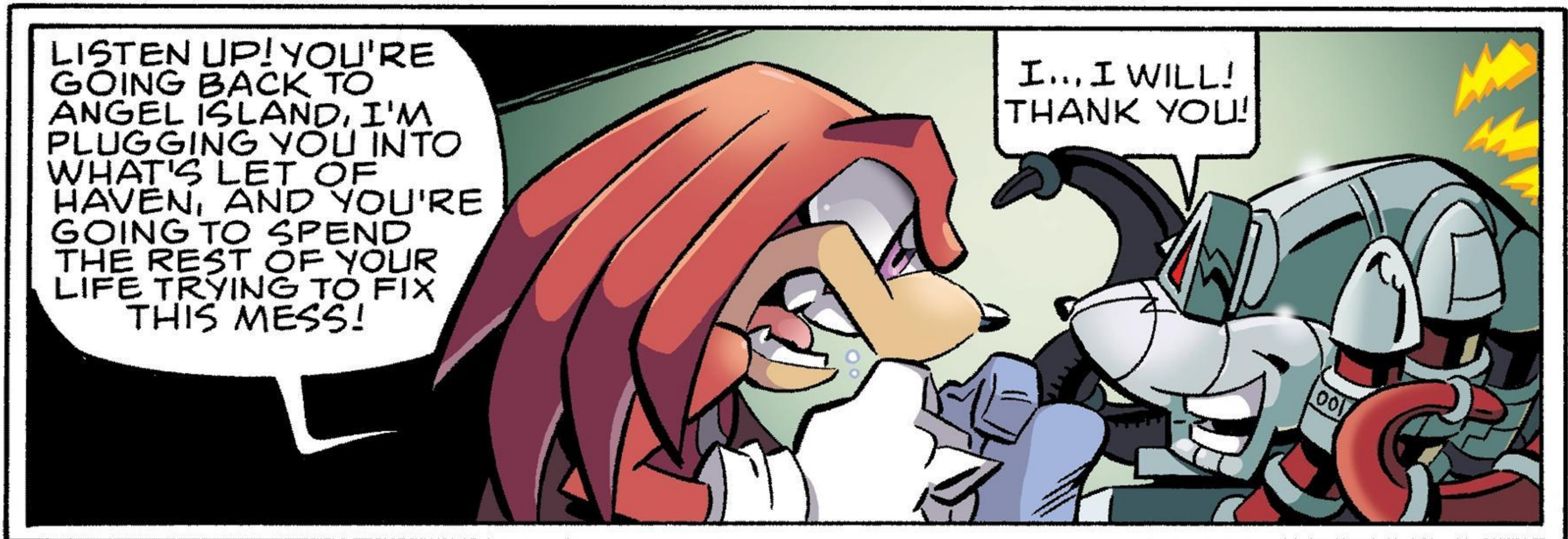
SO HALF OUR KIND ARE EITHER SLAVES OR AS GOOD AS DEAD.

PLEASE DO NOT PUNCH ME IN THE FACE. IT'S ALL I HAVE LEFT.



*STH # 212.
**STH # 206.





END



WHAT IF **EVIL**
RULED
THE ?
WORLD!

SUBSCRIBE
TODAY & JOIN
THE FIGHT!

SONIC
UNIVERSE
25-28

ARCHIECOMICS.COM

THE SILVER SAGA



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the SONIC SPIN

you will believe a man can editorially comment!

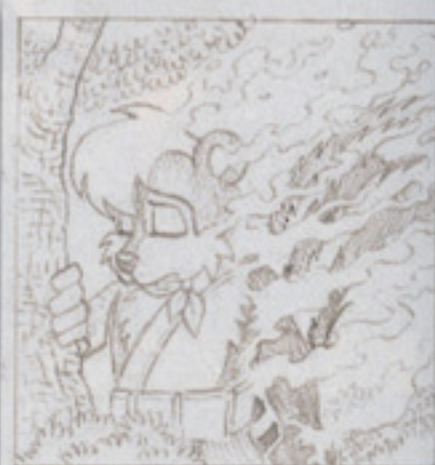
222: THE ART-SPLOSION!

This issue has art from just about every Archie-Sonic artist we could muster! Besides a beautiful cover by Bates, Austin & Herms, and the always-awesome interior Pencils of Steven Butler, this issue sports artists not seen in Sonic for quite some time! James Fry brings us the reunion of Knuckles and Dimitri, and Penciller Jon Gray (whose art hasn't been seen since issue #193) returns this issue with a dazzling frontis piece! With all this awesome art flying around, what I want to know is: who's YOUR fav Sonic artist? Write in and let me know!

CATCH YA NEXT MONTH, *Pat* 1/11

FUN FACT!

Colorist Matt Herms must have had fall on his mind when he colored STH#222's cover last September, as you can see by this first draft's lovely fall-colored leaves! (above)



(Right) Steven Butler's pencils from my favorite scene in this issue!

(Left) Cover Penciller Ben Bates' original cover ideas for 222!

"BECAUSE IT'S ALL PART OF THE GAME!"
- DR. EGGMAN, SONIC #220



SONIC: GENESIS

COMING SOON

WWW.ARCHIECOMICS.COM

FAN ART

Ana S.

sent to sonic@archiecomics.com



FAN FUNNIES!



by Brittany C. from Alabama



Jaimi C.
from B.C., CANADA



(top) Dante J.
(bottom) Vincent J.
from California



HEY, KIDS!

WANNA WRITE YOUR OWN
HILARIOUS SONIC COMIC STRIPS??
SEND YOUR SONIC STRIP TO:

MY SONIC FAN FUNNIES C/O
ARCHIE COMICS PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX #419 MAMARONECK NY 10543-0419
E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM



OFF PANEL

SCRIPT: IAN FLYNN PENCILS: JAMES FRY
INKS: TERRY AUSTIN COLORS: PAUL KAMINSKI





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SONIC-GRAMS

WRITE TO US @: SONIC-GRAMS c/o ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX # 419 MAMARONECK NY 10543-0419 E-MAIL: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

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LETTERS

DUE TO THE OVERWHELMING AMOUNT OF FAN RESPONSE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLY TO EACH FAN. SPACE LIMITATIONS MAY REQUIRE SOME PRINTED LETTERS TO BE EDITED. ALL YOUR LETTERS ARE APPRECIATED!

Dear Sonic-Grams,
Hey! It's me, Aspen F., again!

OK, everyone reading this right now, I want you to join me on the count of 3.
one...two...three:
"HI ASPEN!"

I have a few more questions for ya!
I answer because I care :)

1) Who is Mammoth Mogul?

Mammoth Mogul is a near-immortal who was empowered with Chaos energy hundreds of years in the past -- effectively becoming the very first "ruler" of the planet Mobius! After plenty of defeats at the hands of Sonic, Mogul now spends his days as a Casino owner and glorified super-thug. He is also afraid of mice and loves peanuts (just guessing on those last two)!

2) Is Sonic a triplet?

Only in the "Sonic Underground" cartoon series! In which Sonic and his siblings defeat evil-doers with the power of ROCK!

3) Who's that porcupine-lookin' dude in the background of STH#215?

That would be Dylan! He and many of the other council members used to be in the Substitute Legion of Freedom Fighters. Now they run the city -- go figure!

Well I had better get going! I just wrote this letter in class so I don't

want to get in trouble!
I LOVE Sonic! Bye!

Sincerely,
Aspen F.
from Washington

WOW! You must have written this letter with SONIC SPEED! Thanks for dropping us a line, Aspen!

Dear Sonic-Grams,
I'm Jacob D.!

I'm Sonic G.!

I want to see more of Al and Cal from the second issue of Sonic the Hedgehog. They were in a story called "Vertigo A'go-go". Maybe you could put them in the next issue!

Al and Cal WILL be back! And sooner than you think!

I know Sonic and Knuckles fight a lot but I want them to fight MORE.

Thanks a lot,
Jacob D.
from Michigan

P.S. I like those Sonic Bumper Stickers from Sonic Archives vol.1!

Well, aside from that extremely violent final thought, that was a very nice letter, Jacob, thanks for writing in! Sonic and Knuckles DID fight a lot over the years, and to catch some of their best throw-down moments be sure to pick up Sonic Select vol.3! On sale now!

Dear Sonic-Grams,
I just want to say that Sonic the Hedgehog is my favorite cartoon and video game character. Sonic is the

Best! I love reading his comic and I can't wait for Sonic's 20th anniversary! I also can't wait for the next comic!

Blake D.
from Wisconsin

Thanks Blake! We're looking forward to Sonic's 20th anniversary celebration too -- be sure to read the next few issues very carefully as all the pieces to that super-story begin to fall into place!

Dear Sonic-Grams,
I love the comics and I have a few questions!

1) When did Shadow first show up in the comic?

STH#98 -- one of my very favorite stories because SPAZ did the art!

2) How did you come up with the idea of Scourge?

There were many different factors, but it boiled down to Ian Flynn and then-editor Mike Pellerito looking for a new way to re-purpose "Evil" Sonic!

I have an idea for a Sonic Universe arc. Have Shadow and Rouge try to go back to the Special Zone but instead go to the Sonic X universe!

Will K.

sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

Cool idea, Will! Thanks for writing in! See ya next month!

NEXT ISSUE: 223



THE BATTLE FOR THE CROWN BEGINS!

THE FINAL BATTLE ON THE ROAD TO 225 BEGINS AS IXIS NAUGUS LAUNCHES HIS OFFENSIVE!

"CHAOS & THE CROWN" pt1 (of 2)

ON SALE THE WEEK OF 04/05/11

NEXT SONIC UNIVERSE: 26



THE SILVER SAGA PART TWO (OF FOUR)

CAN SILVER THE HEDGEHOG SURVIVE A NO-HOLDS-BARRED BRAWL WITH ENERJAK & HIS PRELATE ARMY?! OH, IT'S ON NOW!

ON SALE THE WEEK OF 3/22/11!



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